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"I Support General KIM IL SUNG"

South Korean Youths Express Ardent Adoration for the Leader before Group of People

The ardent reverence for Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, is burning more furiously in the hearts of the South Korean people as the days go by.

According to a South Korean daily two young men named Li Hong Sik and Li Jon Son, farmers residing in Oeam-ri, Songak-myon, Asan county, South Chungchong Province, expressed their uncontrollable feelings of reverence and respect for the Leader by shouting "I support General Kim Il Sung" before a group of people.

They shouted this at the top of their voices before the passengers in a bus on the way home from a dirty "anti-communist" gathering organised in Onyang on February 9 to which they had been forcibly dragged by the Pak Jung Hi treacherous clique.

This is graphic proof that no matter how desperately the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi treacherous clique may try to deceive the South Korean people, staging "anti-communist" farces, they cannot dupe the people or dampen the ardent reverence for Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, and longing for the northern half of the Republic blazing violently in the hearts of the South Korean people.

The beastly Pak Jung Hi fascist clique made the Chonan branch of the puppet Taejon district prosecutors' office to arrest these patriotic youths on February 15 and are scheming to punish them under the notorious "anti-communist law."

TELEGRAMS

From various countries telegrams are streaming in on Comrade Kim Il Sung, congratulating the seizure of the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship "Pueblo" by the Navy of the Korean People's Army.

✦Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a telegram from **Amilcar Cabral**, General Secretary of the African Independence Party of Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde Islands.

The telegram pointed out:

I extend warm congratulations to you, your Party and Government and the entire Korean people and whole-heartedly wish them continuous success in the common struggle against imperialism and for national independence, peace and the progress of the peoples at a time when the heroic Korean People's Army is celebrating its 20th founding anniversary and your people guided by the glorious Workers' Party of Korea, Government and you, outstanding Leader, are showing a wealth of example of courage and resoluteness to the people of the whole world, victoriously resisting the U.S. imperialist provocations by

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All Questions Elucidated by Great Leader Premier KIM IL SUNG Are of Great Significance in Revolution and Construction

Political Programme of D.P.R.K. Govt. Announced by Comrade Kim Il Sung Is Calling Forth Great Repercussion among World's People

Algeria

Moktari, Secretary in charge of external affairs of the National Women's Union of Algeria, in a statement declared that the members of the Leadership of the National Women's Union of Algeria are making a deep study of the Political Programme of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced by Premier Kim Il Sung.

She said:

I am very happy to express, on behalf of the entire members of the Leadership of the National Women's Union of Algeria, particularly of its General Secretary Shaint Touf, all-out support to the Political Programme of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forth by Premier Kim Il Sung, the great Leader. The Political Programme deals with all the questions arising in socialist construction and expounds in detail the ways and means for their solution. All the questions elucidated in the Political Programme are of great significance in the revolution and construction.

Premier Kim Il Sung said: **"Economic independence is the material basis for political independence."**

We fully support the profound ideas of Premier Kim Il Sung on building an independent national economy.

The Government Political Programme announced by him gave a clear-cut and concrete exposition of the aim of building an independent national economy and questions as to how to build an independent national economy.

The line of building an independent national economy is ever-victorious. As was pointed out in the Political Programme of the D.P.R.K. Government, to build an independent national economy it is, we think, essential to maintain the principle of self-reliance above all. Only in this way, is it possible to mobilise the internal forces and inner resources of one's country effectively. Then we can do without relying on others.

She went on to say:

It is very important at present to step up economic construction of the country and its defence upbuilding in parallel. Because the present era is an era of struggle against imperialism. Therefore, defence build-up, along with economic construction, is one of the fundamental questions in the revolution and construction.

It is only too natural that the Korean people, building socialism standing face to face with the imperialists, should struggle upholding the line of the Workers' Party of Korea on carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel.

Noting that what attracts our particular attention in the foreign policy of the D.P.R.K. Government is the question on forming and strengthening an anti-imperialist united front, she quoted the words of Premier Kim Il Sung: **"In order to battle vigorously against U.S. imperialism, international anti-U.S. joint action must be achieved and an anti-U.S. united front be formed."**

She further said:

Referring to foreign trade, Premier Kim Il Sung pointed out that **"In particular, the developed socialist countries should give more material assistance with no political strings attached and with no selfish motives, to the economically backward countries which aspire after socialism against imperialism."** We absolutely support this. Premier Kim Il Sung also said that **"In the trade relations with foreign countries, too, as in all other matters, we should never deviate from the class stand or become oblivious of communist ethics and comradely duty."**

To develop the trade relations among the countries opposing imperialism on the principles of equality and mutual benefit is of particularly weighty significance in shattering the economic infiltration of imperialism and neo-colonialism.

Premier Kim Il Sung laid stress on strengthening and developing the socialist market in the international economic relations. We consider that this is an essential demand in the present period. This is because only by so doing, can we frustrate the economic attack of the imperialists.

The line on the trade and international economic relations clarified by Premier Kim Il Sung is a thoroughly anti-imperialist and revolutionary one.

We also fully support the stand of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for defending the rights and freedom of Korean citizens in Japan and voice firm solidarity with the Korean citizens in Japan in their fight for winning democratic, national rights.

Moktari wished the Korean people still greater victory in their struggle for implementing the Government Political Programme announced by Premier Kim Il Sung and expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the peoples of Algeria and Korea, between the Algerian and Korean women, would strengthen and develop day by day.

Cambodia

Cambodian paper **Cambodge** carried an article on February 9 under the caption "Pyongyang living in the age of *Juche*" introducing the Political Programme of the Government of our Republic "Let us embody more thoroughly the revolutionary spirit of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence in all fields of state activity" announced by Comrade Kim Il Sung at the First Session of the Fourth Supreme People's Assembly.

Saying that Comrade Kim Il Sung in his speech of the Political Programme once again underscored the necessity of more thoroughly embodying the idea of *Juche*, the article quoted the following words

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Heroic Vietnamese People Will Surely Win in Righteous Struggle

Against U.S. Imperialism and for National Salvation and U.S. Imperialists Will Certainly Be Defeated

D.P.R.K. Government Issues Statement

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on February 28 issued a statement in connection with the bestial barbarities of murder committed with increasing frenzy in South Viet Nam by the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges who are repeatedly suffering of late serious political and military defeats in face of the vehement revolutionary offensive of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces and the South Vietnamese people.

The statement reads in full:

The U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges who are repeatedly suffering of late serious political and military defeats in face of the vehement revolutionary offensive of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces and the South Vietnamese people, are perpetrating bestial barbarities of murder in South Viet Nam with increasing frenzy.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors are bombing and shelling such big cities of South Viet Nam as Saigon, Hue and Da Nang and provincial and district seats, killing or wounding thousands of inhabitants, razing cities and destroying numerous buildings. The U.S. imperialists and the Thieu-Ky puppet clique are suppressing and killing large numbers of patriots and guiltless people at random.

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REVOLUTIONARY FAMILY OF COMRADE KIM IL SUNG AND HIS REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES IN HIS EARLY YEARS

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, is the peerless patriot, national hero, ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements.

Comrade Kim Il Sung has fought with all devotion for the freedom and happiness of the Korean people, for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism in our country and for the development of the international communist movement and the world revolution, taking upon himself the destinies of the fatherland and the nation for more than 40 years now since he set out on the road of revolutionary struggle in his early years.

In the darkest days of Japanese imperialist rule, Comrade Kim Il Sung founded the anti-Japanese guerrilla army, led the anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory, personally overcoming stern trials in its forefront for 15 years, and established the glorious revolutionary traditions of our Party in the course of this struggle.

Under the difficult and complicated situation after the liberation, Comrade Kim Il Sung founded our Party and, on the basis of a firm stand of *Juche* and an independent revolutionary line, brightly illuminated the highway of the Korean revolution and led our people to brilliant victories.

Our people under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung triumphantly carried out the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution in a short period, turned the northern half of the Republic into a powerful base of revolution and won a historic victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War against the U.S. imperialist armed invaders.

It is thanks to the seasoned leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung that even in the hard postwar conditions our people made the grand Chollima advance breaking through manifold difficulties and ordeals without the slightest vacillation and thereby converted our country into a strong socialist state which is independent in politics, self-sustaining in the economy and self-defensive in national defence.

While smashing at every step the repeated machinations of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges for aggression and war provocation, Comrade Kim Il Sung has victoriously led the vigorous struggle of the people in both parts of Korea to achieve the independent unification of the fatherland, the supreme national task of our people, and accomplish the South Korean revolution and did everything in his power to protect all Korean compatriots abroad and defend their national rights.

Indeed, the whole course of the development of the Korean revolution was the course in which the great revolutionary idea of Comrade Kim Il Sung, who creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the concrete conditions of our country and developed it, his idea of *Juche* and the independent revolutionary line were brilliantly embodied and won victory in this land.

Comrade Kim Il Sung made an outstanding contribution not only to the victory of the Korean revolution but also to the development of the international communist movement and the world revolution.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, commands the absolute trust and respect of the revolutionaries and all over the world for his fidelity to the revolutionary principles of Marxism-Leninism, thoroughgoing anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. stand and for his outstanding theoretical and practical contributions to the development of the international communist movement.

Today broad people of the world call Comrade Kim Il Sung a great and seasoned leader of the international communist movement and an outstanding Marxist-Leninist.

The Korean people deem it a boundless honour, a greatest national pride and an immense happiness to have such great Leader and enjoy his leadership and are steadily advancing for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause, rallied firmly around him with one ideology and one will.

Our paper introduces the brilliant revolutionary activities of Comrade Kim Il Sung and gives in serial form the revolutionary family of Comrade Kim Il Sung and his revolutionary activities in his early years from the current issue. — (Ed.)

Mr. KIM HYONG JIK, Father of Comrade KIM IL SUNG (1)

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik (July 10, 1894—June 5, 1926), father of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements, was an indomitable anti-Japanese fighter who resolutely struggled for the independence of the country and against the Japanese imperialist aggressors and a progressive educationist who fought, devoting his all, for the education of the rising generation.

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik was born and grew up when the occupation of Korea by Japanese imperialism was further intensified and the feudal system of our country was in the process of disintegration.

The "Eulsa Protectorate Treaty" was signed under the pressure of Japanese imperialism in 1905 when he was 12 years old and the "Jongmi Seven-Point Treaty" was concluded in 1907 when he was 14 years old.

Under these treaties Japanese imperialism seized real political and military power from Korea. And it completely occupied Korea under the "Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty" forced upon her in 1910 when he was 17 years old.

At that time, those in power, reduced to quislings, indulged in seeking after personal ease and meeting their avarice and the Korean people suffered from double and treble subjugation and exploitation of Japanese imperialism and its lackeys.

In those days the patriotic-minded people of Korea fought everywhere in the country against the corrupt and depraved feudal rulers engrossed in traitorous acts and the Japanese imperialist aggressors who occupied Korea.

In 1894, the year when Mr. Kim Hyong Jik was born, the Kabo Peasant War swept the Samnam area and it was followed by the nation-wide anti-Japanese struggle which was launched by the righteous volunteer army under the slogan "Annihilate the enemy, Japanese."

On July 10, 1894, the year when a nation-wide resistance struggle against foreign aggressors was afoot, Mr. Kim Hyong Jik was born as the eldest son of Mr. Kim Bo Hyon at Mangyongdae Nam-ri, Kopyong sub-country, Daedong county, South Pyongan Province.

The family was very poor.

Grandfather earned the living by keeping graves of a landlord's ancestors. He tilled the landlord's land and lived in a house of the grave keeper.

Mangyongdae by the riverside was a village surrounded by mountains. It was so sterile that no crops but kaoliang, barnyard grass, millet and beans grew. On top of it, landlords dispossessed tenant farmers of land under various pretexts.

Recalling the life of the family in those days, uncle of Comrade Kim Il Sung said: "As for the life of our family, we lived on gruel by farming. Though I did not attain my years of discretion at that time, the memory of those days when my grandmother worried for gruel whenever guests called on us is still green in my mind. One day, when a guest paid a visit to us, I asked grandmother doing kitchen work: 'Do we have a guest today, too?' Asked by me, she answered: 'As you see, we've a guest. But I cannot help but mix another bowlful of water with gruel for him.' It seems as though it were only yesterday."

With a burning faith that he should learn at any cost though his family was in very needy conditions, Mr. Kim Hyong Jik studied hard.

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik studied at a private tutorial school at Mangyongdae in his early age and finished the Sunhwa School at the age of 17.

At the age of 18, he entered the Pyongyang Sungsil Middle School.

Unable to get school expenses, he worked at the wood-working shop and iron foundry run by the school in the morning and attended school in the afternoon.

But his school records were excellent all the time and had an unusual talent particularly for physics and chemistry and mathematics. Mr. Kim Hyong Jik who had already contacts with the anti-Japanese fighters in his middle school days had to leave school halfway in the second year.

His class position and the historical background at that time kindled him with a spirit of resistance and a fighting spirit and a staunch patriotism to fight for the restoration of the fatherland.

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik who took part in the anti-Japanese struggle in his school days had the closest ties with Mr. Kang Jin Sok.

Mr. Kang Jin Sok was an anti-Japanese fighter who organized the "Korean Independence Youth League" and, arms in hand, conducted his activities at home and abroad. He roused many patriotic youth to the anti-Japanese struggle.

Mr. Kim Hyong Jik returned to Mangyongdae after giving up school halfway and taught at the Sunhwa School. Since then his activities were unfolded on a wider scale.

He established contacts with patriots active in the Kangdong and Songchon areas and had close ties with patriots active abroad on a wide-scale.

In the early spring of 1916 Mr. Kim Hyong Jik shifted theatre of his activities to Bonghwa-ri, Kangdong county, South Pyongan Province (In those days it was called Naedong village, Dongsamri, Dongchon sub-county, Kangdong county, South Pyongan Province), because it was favourable for his revolutionary activities.

In those days, this village was easy to establish contacts with the patriots in Kangdong, Songchon, Sunchon and Daedong counties where the anti-Japanese independence movement was carried on vigorously and was very good to conduct activities avoiding the eyes of Japanese imperialism, for it was a village by the riverside which was near to Pyongyang and hidden among mountains.

After moving residence to Bonghwa-ri, Kangdong county, Mr. Kim Hyong Jik conducted his revolutionary activities more vigorously while teaching at the Pyongsin School.

With those engaged in the independence movement at home and abroad and graduates of the Pyongyang Sungsil Middle School as the central figures, he organized on March 23, 1917 the "Korean National Association," the biggest anti-Japanese movement organisation and underground organisation before the March First Popular Uprising.

This organisation sought to achieve Korea's independence by the Korean people themselves, without relying on outside forces. With the aim of achieving the freedom of governing the Koreans by the Koreans themselves in case the influence of the European and American powers would be stretched to the East and a struggle for supremacy be waged between them and Japan in future, the "Korean National Association" established contacts with the patriotic organisations at home and abroad and gradually expanded its network abroad, particularly, to the Kando area to muster comrades and make preparations for winning the freedom of self-government.

Liaison agents were dispatched to Antung abroad and correspondents to Peking.

Internally, political workers were sent to Kyongsang, Cholla and Hwanghae Provinces to expand the influence of the "Korean National Association." And district heads were posted in these areas.

According to the enemy-admitted data given in the "Korean National Association" which the "Chief" of the Police Affairs Division of South Pyongan Province submitted to the Governor-General of Korea and the Japanese War Minister on February 18, 1918, in this organisation communication was conducted entirely by codes or passwords between comrades and between its affiliates to maintain secrecy.

The "Korean National Association" made great efforts to raise funds and obtain weapons and it planned to select its fine members and train them into military cadres.

Particularly noteworthy in the organisation of the "Korean National Association" and its activity is the fact that the purpose of this organisation and the ways and means for its implementation were accurate.

This organisation as an anti-Japanese underground organisation before the spread of Marxism-Leninism in our country correctly set forth the anti-imperialist, national fighting tasks.

The "Korean National Association" held that the independence of the fatherland should be achieved on the strength of the Korean people, not relying on outside forces. And it adopted the correct method of properly combining political activity with military one and not the method of petition or reform.

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seizing the spy ship "Pueblo" and detaining its crew serving the enemy's criminal aims against your socialist fatherland.

✦Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message from Jesusumu Baobono, General Secretary of the People's Idea Party of Equadorial Guinea.

The message extended revolutionary greetings to Premier Kim Il Sung, the great and respected and beloved Leader of the entire 40 million Korean people and the world's oppressed peoples, to the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean Government and the Navy of the heroic Korean People's Army, on the capture of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" of the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops which infiltrated into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The message said:

The Equadorial Guinean people and the People's Idea Party of Equadorial Guinea, their Party, that regard the struggle of the Korean people as their own struggle and resolutely condemn the U.S. imperialists for their ceaseless aggressive manoeuvres for the provocation of a new war in Korea, are convinced that the Korean people under your wise leadership will drive out the U.S. imperialists, liberate South Korea and achieve final victory.

✦Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a telegram from David L. Smith, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Scotland.

The telegram declared:

The Workers' Party of Scotland extends congratulations to you on the fact that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea captured the U.S. armed spy ship "Pueblo" which intruded into its territorial waters and defended its sovereignty, thus giving a due lesson to the arrogant imperialists.

Our Party heartily rejoices over the fact that it has become all the more patent that a small nation is able to smash the ferocious acts of the declining "big" capitalist power.

We promise that our Party will exert efforts for opposing a great many U.S. military bases, nuclear weapons and control organs from our country, Scotland.

Only by so doing can our workers frustrate their fascist savagery and contribute most splendidly to the ever more successful and growing struggle waged by the peoples of Korea, Vietnam and other countries.

✦Premier Kim Il Sung of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a telegram from Dr. Fawzi El Said, Secretary of the International Federation of Arab Trade Unions.

In the name of the 5 million Arab workers, the telegram expressed undivided support to and solidarity with the just struggle of the Korean people and declared that the Korean people under the leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung would foil the manoeuvres and aggression of the U.S. imperialists.

Political Programme Is Programme of Struggle for People of Whole World Fighting against U.S. Imperialism

(Continued from Page 1)

of Comrade Kim Il Sung: "The Government of the Republic will implement with all consistency the line of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence to consolidate the political independence of the country, build up more solidly the foundations of an independent national economy capable of ensuring the complete unification, independence and prosperity of our nation, and to increase the country's defence capabilities so as to safeguard the security of the fatherland reliably by our own force, by splendidly embodying our Party's idea of *Juche* in all fields."

Quoting Comrade Kim Il Sung's words that "Our Party's spirit of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence finding their full embodiment in all fields of national construction, the political independence of the Republic has been consolidated and the economic independence and military power of the country have grown further with," the article wrote that Comrade Kim Il Sung laid emphasis on implementing more thoroughly the idea of *Juche* in all spheres—politics, economy, national defence and diplomacy.

Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out that economic independence is the material basis of political independence and a country which is dependent upon foreign forces economically becomes a satellite country of other country politically, that the question of the unification of Korea is an internal affair of the Korean people which can be solved by no outside force and that in foreign policy efforts should be exerted continuously to establish political and economic relations with other countries on the basis of the principles of complete equality and mutual respect and the anti-imperialist struggle should be waged on the basis of one's independent judgement and belief, the article wrote.

Burma

Premier Kim Il Sung's idea of *Juche* is the most correct revolutionary line in which the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism are creatively applied to the concrete conditions of the country and the Political Programme of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced by him is a programme of struggle for the people of the whole world fighting against U.S. imperialism and for national liberation and world peace.

Dekinlin, Secretary of the Burmese Council for World Peace, emphasized this in his recent statement warmly hailing the Political Programme of the Government announced by Premier Kim Il Sung at the First Session of the Fourth Supreme People's Assembly.

The entire progressive forces of Burma warmly welcome and fully support the Political Programme of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced by Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he stressed.

Pointing out that under the correct leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung, the great and respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, the Korean people have won great victory in socialist construction, he emphasized that this is the fruition of revolution gained by the Korean people by waging an undaunted struggle armed with one ideology and one theory under the wise leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, and the Workers' Party of Korea.

He stressed that the revolutionary line of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence put forth by Premier Kim Il Sung in the Political Programme is valuable teachings not only for Korea but also for all the newborn independent states of the world.

Brilliant Victory That Shattered Enemy's Overall Offensive against the Base Areas of Mt. Baekdu

On the 31st Anniversary of Victory in Rimingshui Battle, Changpai County

The battle in Rimingshui, Changpai County was one of the battles in which the main units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung dealt heavy blows at the enemy, rapidly expanding and developing the anti-Japanese armed struggle after setting up new revolutionary bases in the southwestern areas of Mt. Baekdu.

Retrospecting this battle which took place on February 26, 1937, our people once again trace with deep emotion the glorious path of struggle traversed by the anti-Japanese guerrillas and the immortal feats performed by them under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung during the dark period of Japanese imperialist rule.

At the historic meetings in Nanhutou and Tunglaing, Comrade Kim Il Sung set forth the strategic line on the advance of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army into the northern border areas of our country.

This was a most correct and wise line for leading the Korean revolution to a great upsurge over the length and breadth of the country.

In order to carry into effect this line in which he clearly indicated the future course of the revolution with scientific foresight and sharp insight, Comrade Kim Il Sung personally led the main units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army to the southwestern regions of Mt. Baekdu.

Numerous battles were fought in the border areas—Tateshui, Hsiaotehsui, Ershitaokou, Ertaogang and so on.

In these battles, the guerrillas, according to the resourceful tactics of Comrade Kim Il Sung, mowed down the enemy troops by scores and inspired the people with a firm confidence in victory.

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army rapidly gained in strength and scope in the areas along the borderline and its vigorous advance threw into utter disconfiture the Japanese imperialists who were seeking an immediate full-scale aggression against the mainland of China.

The Japanese imperialists took "emergency measures" at the "Tumen talks"; they built police stations and sub-stations and batteries at an interval of two km. along the borderline and herded out tens of thousands of heavily armed military and police in the trooping-up operations, even with the mobilisation of aircraft.

Yet Comrade Kim Il Sung, employing pre-eminent strategy and tactics and with bold military actions, administered telling blows to the enemy in Heihsiatzukou, Hungtou Mountain and other areas between January and February 1937.

The battle in Rimingshui on February 26, 1937 delivered the last decisive rebuff to the enemy forces which were out in the "winter punitive operation" that year.

The main units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army which inflicted powerful blows on the enemy in the area of Dochuri on February 20 were moving in the direction of Rimingshui under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung to hold a memorial service in commemoration of revolutionary forerunners.

Having detected the course of our army's movement, the enemy ordered into action the Japanese and Manchukuo troops in Paotaokou and Ertaogang for an attack.

Upon learning this news, Comrade Kim Il Sung said as follows:

"Comrades, let us meet the memorial service scheduled to be held here tomorrow with a battle. For us to hold the best memorial service is meant, after all, to wipe out the enemy more."

Under the command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, more than 400 men of our army units including the Seventh and Eighth Regiments of the Sixth Division occupied both slopes of the Rimingshui valley and got ready for action.

At five in the afternoon of the 26th, the Manchukuo troops some 200 strong were crawling up the gorge under the command of a Japanese army officer from the direction of Pataokou.

The situation was decisively in favour of our army both in the light of topographical conditions and numerical strength.

When the whole forces of the enemy came completely in the encirclement of our army, the signal shot of Comrade Kim Il Sung rang out, heralding the start of volley-firing.

Met with a barrage of fire, the enemy troops fell en masse. Some were shot dead before they could load the guns. It was really a thrilling moment.

In this battle that lasted for a short while, our army killed, injured or captured 160 and more enemy troops and seized three machineguns and many other weapons of the enemy plus a huge amount of ammunition.

Soon later the enemy appeared again in the direction of Ertaogang, but was annihilated by our troops. Comrade Kim Il Sung had deployed beforehand in anticipation of even the time of the enemy's arrival and its route of movement.

Comrade Kim Il Sung gathered together the 50 odd men and officers of the Manchukuo army captured alive and told them that the Korean People's Revolutionary Army is a people's armed force which rose up in the national salvation struggle against the Japanese imperialist brigands and that Japanese imperialism is the common enemy of the Korean and Chinese peoples. He also said that they should not serve as bullet shields for the Japanese imperialists but should turn out in the fight against Japanese imperialism, upholding their national conscience. Then he let them go back, giving them even travelling expenses.

Immensely touched by this, these men of the Manchukuo army thereafter played a big role in letting their troops capitulate in large numbers.

The battle in Rimingshui, along with other battles, is shining brilliantly in the history of our revolution as a battle which demonstrated the decisive superiority of the great strategy and tactics and art of command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader.

The Japanese imperialist aggressors resorted to every conceivable means and method in an attempt to prevent the Korean People's Revolutionary Army from launching into the southwestern areas of Mt. Baekdu.

To cope with such offensive of the enemy against the base areas of Mt. Baekdu, Comrade Kim Il Sung carried out military activities mainly in two directions.

One was to send out small units to different parts to deal blows at the enemies so that they could not move at will and the other was that large units beat the enemy's large units while acting by stealth.

The combination of large unit operation with small unit operation creatively applied by him would cause the Japanese imperialist rogues to suffer heavy casualties.

Owing to such outstanding strategy and tactics of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the "winter punitive operation" of the Japanese imperialists that year ended in total fiasco, and this once again demonstrated to the full the might of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

The brilliant victories in the Rimingshui battle and other battles fought by the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in the southwestern areas of Mt. Baekdu in those days were of important significance not only in inspiring great revolutionary influences on the people in these regions but in bringing the revolutionary movement of our country onto a new high stage as a whole.

Under the outstanding leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung who guided the revolution to victory, personally standing in its forefront, powerful revolutionary bases were established in the southwestern areas of Mt. Baekdu, vigorous activities were carried out by the organisations of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland in all parts of the country and organisational and ideological preparations made satisfactorily for the founding of the Party.

The crushing blows inflicted by the main units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army against the enemy in Rimingshui battle exhibited the iron will of the anti-Japanese guerrillas who waged an unflagging struggle carrying forward the wishes of revolutionary forerunners and showed their firm determination to crush the enemy like the revolutionary forerunners and liberate the fatherland so as to realise their aspiration.

The brilliant revolutionary exploits performed and traditions of struggle established in the anti-Japanese armed struggle including the Rimingshui battle are valuable assets which ushered in such a great era of Chollima as today in this land and a source of mighty power that immensely inspires the struggle of our people to accomplish the cause of the unification of the fatherland.

Red Miners Standing in the Van of Great Upsurge of Chollima

ONE year has passed since Red miners of the mine where Comrade Kim Gyu Won works had an honour of meeting Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people.

Premier Kim Il Sung, though pressed by political affairs at home and abroad, called up Red miners of this mine to Pyongyang on January 25, 1967 and spent a day with them.

Flames Kindled by Comrade Premier

Premier Kim Il Sung asked first about the health of workers and about their families. Then he taught them one by one what tasks they should carry out for the thorough implementation of the Party's revolutionary line, a line of building the economy and defences in parallel.

He said:

"We must further improve the material and cultural living standards of the people and consolidate continually and firmly the material foundations of the people's economy. Besides we must strengthen our national defence capabilities, too. We must have more money for fully satisfying the growing material demands of the people.

"Only when you comrades dig much minerals, can we get more fishing boats and catch more fish in the pelagic and deep sea, build more factories, carry on defence upbuilding well and accelerate the unification of the fatherland.

"Accordingly, the more you dig minerals now, the better it is.... That is why I would like to discuss this matter with you..."

The earnest words of Premier Kim Il Sung enabled the Red miners of this mine who had risen up in a body upholding the Party's new line of carrying on economic construction in parallel with defence upbuilding to deeply understand how important their task was and touched off their enthusiasm.

Back home company commander Ro Hyo Sop who had personally met Premier Kim Il Sung hurried to the cutting site, with excitement and deep emotion.

"Comrades!" he said, "The respected and beloved Leader Premier Kim Il Sung has assigned us new tasks again."

These words of company commander Ro Hyo Sop moved his men once again. They instantly organised the "January 25 shock-brigade" and plunged into tunnelling. They topped their daily assignments twice or thrice as they had carried out the Five-Year Plan only in two years and a half.

Meanwhile, the tunnelling workers of the 2nd youth pit resolved to increase the speed of tunnelling five times and put their resolve into execution without fail.

When the staff of the mine planned to change work places in view of the unfavourable conditions created at cutting sites, they said: "How can we say we are true soldiers of the Leader, if we fail to produce minerals as planned by changing work places because of unfavourable work conditions?" They fulfilled only in half a year their tunnelling assignments which would have taken two years in the past, overcoming unfavourable conditions in the tunnelling face. They smashed passivism and the conservative tendency that "the speed of development cannot be fast when the economy has grown on a large scale" and resolved to produce 1.4 times as much minerals as in the original plan.

Following the example personally set by Premier Kim Il Sung, the Party committee of the mine gave precedence to political work.

In particular the Party committee induced those comrades who received Premier Kim Il Sung's January 25 instructions to educate the entire Party members and then mobilised the entire Party members to lead the masses. A man roused to action ten people and ten people one hundred people. This step sparked off a great revolutionary upsurge in every unit and at every post.

The office employees and those working outside the pits came to the aid of the workers in the production of valuable minerals during spare time.

Housewives voluntarily came to lend their helping hand to their husbands.

In this way, the whole mine seethed with a great revolutionary upsurge touched off personally by Premier Kim Il Sung, which finally led to producing 45.8 per cent more minerals than the original target set at the outset of the year.

In high appreciation of labour achievements made by the Red miners here, Premier Kim Il Sung sent a congratulatory message to them on December 25 last.

Inspired by the congratulatory message, the workers here have been striving hard to make innovations from the beginning of this year.

In Accordance with Daean System of Work

Premier Kim Il Sung not only awakened the functionaries of the mine ideologically and illumined the road of struggle and the road to victory but also taught them work methods one by one.

The Party committee of the mine saw to it that the leading functionaries thoroughly implemented the Chongsan-ri spirit, the Chongsan-ri method and the Daean system of work taught by the respected and beloved Leader under the catchword "Let's decisively suit the work method of the leading personnel to the great upswing of Chollima!" and further intensified the political work among the workers.

As a result, reserves and possibilities were explored again capable of producing this year 1.5 times more minerals than the actual figure of last year.

The Party committee of the mine considered that all elements of production down to details should bite each other like a cogwheel as required by the Daean system of work in order to mobilize inner reserves to the maximum and accelerate the rate of advance, and it laid stress on carrying through the Party's line of detailed planning. In so doing, too, the Party committee adhered to the principle of giving priority to the political work and relying thoroughly on the masses.

When the question of remaking the intermediary crushing process and increasing the ore dressing capacity was raised, the staff of the mine went into the midst of the men of the maintenance and repair workshop and explained in real earnest to them the fact that imbalance between the production of ores and the ore dressing capacity kept the mine from boosting production.

The workers of the maintenance and repair workshop volunteered to tackle this knotty problem.

They examined their daily plans and included manufacture of the accessories necessary for the intermediary crushing process in them and made more than 5,800 spare parts, big and small, in a matter of ten days, and thus boosted the ore dressing capacity.

Large rails and ore cars of the hauling gallery had to be made to ease strain on the transport of ores. The men of the Kim Sang Ok-led rail maintenance platoon organized labour well and arranged their work carefully so as to secure materials in good time.

In this way, they replaced the rails of the 2,400 metre-long section by large ones without stopping the hauling of ores to increase the traffic capacity 1.8 times.

As a result, all processes worked away splendidly and the labour zeal of the workers rose higher. As of January 25 they fulfilled successfully the January assignments for the production of minerals which were set 1.5 times greater than the actual figure of the corresponding period of last year.

New Resolve and New Target

The miners here who have traversed the victorious path upholding the Party's new line of carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel, had a meeting to make a new resolve and set new targets on January 25, the first anniversary of the teaching given them by Premier Kim Il Sung on January 25, 1967. At the meeting they made a new resolve to complete this year's plan for the production of minerals which was set 1.5 times higher than the actual figure of last year by September 9, the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Republic and top their yearly plan by more than 23 per cent by the end of this year.

Their new resolve is based on their practical experiences: they boosted their production by 45.8 per cent last year and fulfilled their January assignments six days ahead of schedule, which were set 50 per cent higher than the actual figure of the same period of last year.

The miners of the Jungin pit perfected the comprehensive mechanization of the work on the mining faces, reduced labour by a half and trebled production compared with the previous years. The Li Yong Guk-led Chollima platoon of the first youth tunnelling pit introduced a new mechanization and raised the tunnelling speed five times.

In this course, the miners here became bold and made no matter for them to boost production by 10 to 20 per cent. And they set it as their target to raise production by 40 to 50 per cent and, not content with this, pooled their efforts and wisdom to double and treble their production.

The men of the Hoh Chun Son-led double Chollima platoon applied the automatic propelling device to the rockdrill with their collective wisdom, which enabled a man to handle three to four rockdrills whereas two men handled one rockdrill in the previous years. This placed the mine in a position to fulfil their yearly plan for the production of minerals more than half a year ahead of schedule and provided conditions for many other platoons and companies to finish their yearly assignments by the end of August through technical innovations.

The Red ore-diggers of this mine are now working hard with a single heart to repay the Party and the Leader for their profound benevolence by giving, as they did in the past year, a lustre to the honour of being the victor in the van of the great revolutionary upsurge upholding the teaching of Premier Kim Il Sung.

Kim Dong Ok

Men of the Hoh Chun Son-led double Chollima platoon of the enterprise where Comrade Kim Gyu Won works, are striving to produce more ores for economic construction and defence upbuilding, taking to heart the great Ten-Point Political Programme of the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. They are exceeding their daily assignments by 60 per cent by launching a vigorous drive for increased production in the spirit of wiping out the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique

Photo by Ju Chang Shin

Korean Women with Rifle in One Hand, Sickle and Hammer in the Other

The women of our country are not only taking an active part in the political and social life with equal rights with men but also playing an important role in revolution and construction and in national defence.

In the darkest days of the Japanese imperialist rule, fine daughters of Korea joined the ranks of the anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by Comrade Kim Il Sung and fought bravely for the freedom and independence of the fatherland and the social emancipation of women.

During the Fatherland Liberation War (June 1950-July 1953) against the U.S. imperialist armed invaders, the Korean women waged a gallant struggle on the front and in the rear, performing brilliant feats.

Upholding the Ten-Point Polltical Programme announced by the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung at the First Session of the Fourth Supreme People's Assembly held in December last year, the women of our country are today making a vigorous advance shoulder to shoulder with men with rifle in one hand and sickle and hammer in the other and fighting to strengthen militant solidarity with the progressive women of the world.

Photo shows Red Worker-Peasant Militiawomen doing anti-aircraft shooting practice.

Theses of Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Furnishes Allround and Concrete Indication of Ways for Final Solution of Peasant and Agricultural Questions under Socialism

STRESSES BURMESE PUBLIC FIGURE

The "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country" authored and put forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, furnishes an allround and concrete indication of the ways for the final solution of the peasant and agricultural questions under socialism, stressed Deklirin, General Secretary of the Burmese Council for World Peace.

He said this in a statement highly lauding the Theses, a historic work of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Thanks to the brilliant embodiment of the great ideas of the Theses under the guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, enormous successes have been scored in Korea, he emphasised.

Warmly praising the sagacity of the leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung and his seasoned method of guidance combining theory with practice and his boundless fidelity to the revolutionary cause of the working class, Deklirin said that Comrade Kim Il Sung is not only leading the Korean people to victory but also radiantly illumining the road ahead of the oppressed and exploited peoples of the world.

Saying that he was deeply impressed by the ideas and theoretical propositions expounded by Comrade Kim Il Sung in the Theses, he emphasized that he could not but marvel at the construction of modern houses at state expense in the Korean countryside freed from taxes. Pointing out that it is thanks to the correct leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung that the Korean people have been able to score a great victory in a short period, shattering at every step the incessant aggressive manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, Deklirin concluded that all the successes made in Korea constitute a guarantee not only for the unification and future prosperity of Korea but for peace in Asia and the world.

A Revolutionary Event of Historic Significance

On the 22nd Anniv. of the Land Reform

The land reform carried out in our country on March 5, 1946, less than a year later the August 15 liberation, was a great historic event which translated into reality the centuries-old aspiration of our peasants for land, a reform that constituted the basic content of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution.

In this regard, Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"The peasant and agricultural questions at the stage of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution consisted in liquidating the feudal relations of land-ownership in the countryside and thereby emancipating the peasantry from the exploitation and enslavement by landlords and freeing the agricultural productive forces from the fetters of feudal production relations. We successfully solved these questions by thoroughly carrying out the land reform on the principles of confiscating the landlords' land and distributing it among the tillers without compensation."

Already in the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle in the 1930's, Comrade Kim Il Sung saw to it that the people's revolutionary government established in the guerrilla bases—the liberated areas—took measures to effect the land reform in a thoroughgoing way and set forth, in the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland he personally worked out, concrete ways and means of finding solution to the peasant and agricultural questions arising at the stage of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution. This historical root which took shape in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle served as a revolutionary wealth and a most valuable asset which made it possible to splendidly settle the peasant and agricultural questions in our country following the liberation.

The Workers' Party of Korea, in accordance with the most correct line of *Juche* laid down by Comrade Kim Il Sung and under his wise leadership, carried out the land reform to the hilt, taking into consideration the fact that it would exert profound influences not only on meeting the immediate requirements of the development of revolution but also on achieving the final solution of the agrarian question.

As a result of the thoroughgoing implementation of the land reform on the principle of confiscating landlords' land at one time and distributing it to the tillers without compensation, the feudalistic relations of exploitation were completely abolished. In fulfilling the land revolution accompanied by an acute class struggle, the Party, firmly relying on the hired hands and poor peasants, saw that the farmers, the masters of the countryside, carried out the land reform for themselves, and sent out a large contingent of progressive workers to the rural areas to give active guidance and assistance to the peasants in their revolutionary struggle for the land reform.

Especially in carrying out the land reform in our country the tenant system and the sale and mortgage of land were prohibited by law and the limit of the possession of private land was fixed at five *jongbo*, thereby preventing the land from being used as means of exploitation again in the countryside.

With the land reform carried out in a most thoroughgoing manner in a very short span of time, the peasant and agricultural questions at the stage of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution were solved successfully, favourable conditions for the socialist transformation of agriculture created in the countryside and new original experiences gained in the solution of the land problem.

The land reform enabled our peasants who, subjected to harsh exploitation and oppression by landlords, had suffered from hunger and poverty in ignorance and darkness for a long period, to become the masters of land and masters of the countryside and engage in farming on their own land for the first time. It opened up a broad avenue for speedily developing the rural economy and improving the livelihood of the peasants. It also formed the countryside from a base of reaction into a base of democracy and gave a great inspiration to the South Korean people, the peasants in particular, in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

Comrade Kim Il Sung once taught:

"For the building of a unified democratic Korea it is imperative to turn North Korea into a mighty democratic base in all spheres of politics, economy and culture. This task cannot be realised unless the peasants making up the overwhelming majority of the population of our country are emancipated from the yoke of the landlords and our backward rural economy is rapidly developed."

The land reform in our country not only marked a great event in Korean history but acquired an enormous international significance. It immensely inspired the oppressed peoples of the East in their liberation struggle against imperialism and domestic feudal forces.

Our peasants whose centuries-old desire came true thanks to the enforcement of the land reform took an active part in the construction of a new democratic state devoting themselves to increasing production and vow to shoulder with the working class and launching a movement for the patriotic delivery of grain to the state and, in the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953) against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, they fought valiantly and bravely at the risk of their lives for the victory in the war in defence of their state power, democratic system, land and peasants.

The land reform was a great historic event which took place in the countryside, but it was only an initial step in the solution of the agrarian question; only by transforming the private peasant economy into socialist collective economy was it possible to emancipate the peasants once and for all from all forms of exploitation and oppression, completely free the agricultural productive forces from the fetters of the old production relations based on private ownership and ensure the proportionate development of industry and agriculture.

Under the outstanding leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, our Party, scientifically taking into account the postwar situation of our country where the devastated rural economy had to be rehabilitated and the deterioration of people's livelihood improved, and the matured, vital requirements and conditions of the peasants, set forth the socialist transformation of agriculture as an immediate task. In launching the co-operative movement, the Party adhered to the voluntary principle and the principle of object lessons and pursued a correct class policy.

Thanks to the active leadership and assistance by the Party and state and the extensive support by the working class and to the high revolutionary enthusiasm of the peasantry awakened in the course of struggle, the complicated revolutionary task of agricultural co-operation, a historical turn in the solution of the agrarian question, was completed smoothly in a matter of 4-5 years.

Our peasants, freed from the narrow framework of the private peasant economy that had lasted for thousands of years, embarked on a new, perspective life of the co-operative economy and became honourable socialist working people advancing firmly hand in hand with the working class.

Comrade Kim Il Sung's Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country" is a great original document on the upbuilding of the socialist countryside, an outstanding Marxist-Leninist agricultural programme, which illumined a bright highway of the socialist countryside should follow and gave an all-round exposition of the basic principles and ways for the solution of the agrarian question under socialism on the basis of the summing-up of the brilliant and victorious results and rich experiences gained by our Party in the solution of the agrarian question.

The Theses put forth the tasks of accelerating the revolution in the countryside vigorously without interruption and constantly strengthening the guidance of and assistance to the countryside in order to consolidate and develop the system of the socialist economy, wipe out literate distinctions between town and country and achieve the final solution of the agrarian question.

The Theses also set forth the tasks to revolutionize the peasantry, giving precedence to the ideological revolution in the countryside and to improve the management of the rural economy and gradually bring co-operative ownership closer to ownership by the whole people, energetically promoting the technical and cultural revolutions.

Through the carrying out of large-scale nature-remaking projects for irrigation, the whole arable land of the country is now covered with a ramified network of water channels and the area of paddy fields has increased markedly with the resultant change in the qualitative composition of grain.

Our countryside has 1.1 tractors per 100 *jongbo* of the cultivated land and various modern machines do arduous farm work in place of the peasants. Besides, electricity found its way to 98.2 per cent of all the rural villages and the electrification of agriculture has been energetically promoted with the systematic increase of the supply of chemical fertilizers, insecticides, etc.

The work of guiding and managing the rural economy has been improved and the role of the county as the base linking town with country has been enhanced greatly, in accordance with the tasks set forth in the Theses, modern dwelling houses, production facilities and public welfare establishments have been built extensively at state expense for the farmers and the complete abolition of agricultural tax in kind freed the peasantry from all burdens of taxation for good. The benefits of free compulsory education and free medical service have reached even the remote mountainous areas and our peasants have no worry about the schooling of their children and medical treatment.

All these brilliant victories gained in the settlement of the agrarian question are solely thanks to the wise leadership and correct agricultural policy of the Central Committee of our Party headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, and thanks to the profound solicitude of the Party and the fatherly Leader that exerted every effort for the development of the rural economy and the betterment of the livelihood of the peasants.

Indeed, all changes, big and small, that have taken place in our countryside are, without exception, inseparably linked with the benevolent affection of the respected and beloved Leader who looks after even out-of-the-way villages and the farmers' household affairs with a paternal care. That is why all of our co-op farm members always keep arming themselves with the Party's unitary ideology that knows no other ideas than the revolutionary ideas of the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, are bringing about a great revolutionary upsurge to expedite the revolution and construction; they are striving to reap a bigger bumper crop, taking good care of the land they defended with blood; they are all-out like one man in the struggle to take in this year 500 kg more grain from each *jongbo* of the arable land.

Yun Won Gil

Danger of a New War in Korea Is Entirely Attributable to Machinations of U.S. Imperialists and Pak Jung Hi Clique for Aggression and War

SPOKESMAN OF D.P.R.K. FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT

A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement on February 27 in connection with the frantic war racket raised by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique against our Republic.

The statement reads in full:

Now the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are making a frantic war racket against our Republic.

The U.S. imperialists newly formed even a task fleet called the 3rd task group and deployed it in the sea off the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and newly reinforced the bases in South Korea with several hundred fighter-bombers, threatening and blackmailing our Republic, issued an emergency mobilization order to the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops occupying South Korea and the South Korean puppet army and are engaged in ceaseless military provocations on the ground and the sea and in the air.

Only recently, on February 16 and February 19, the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops perpetrated armed attacks against posts on our side and were wiped out by the decisive blows of the sentinels of the Korean People's Army, and on February 16, armed ships of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army intruded into the coastal waters of our side in the West Sea and ran away after attempting provocative acts.

On February 18, a formation of their military planes intruded into the air space of our side and perpetrated hostile acts.

Synchronizing with this, the U.S. imperialists took the measures for strengthening the equipment of the puppet army with the additional military "aid" equivalent to 100 million dollars to the South Korean puppet clique, while instructing the South Korean puppet clique to request the 16 countries, which participated in the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war against Korea in the past, to join them at once in case they unleash a new war and send letters requesting assistance to Japan and the Chiang Kai-shek bandits.

A grave situation has been created in Korea, in which a war may be unleashed at any moment by these desperate machinations of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique.

Yet, the U.S. imperialists are now continuously raising a frantic "anti-communist" din to cover up their criminal manoeuvres to start a war and shift onto us the responsibility for the prevailing grave situation.

On February 23, too, U.S. State Secretary Rusk described as "provocation of North Korea" the legitimate self-defence measures taken by the Navy of our People's Army which seized the "Pueblo," an armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialists, and the patriotic armed guerrilla activities of the South Korean people and alleged that the situation has been aggravated in Korea owing to this.

Following this, on February 25, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Bundy also clamoured about the so-called "danger of re-ignition of a war" by North Korea and the Pak Jung Hi puppets in Seoul croaked about the "aggressive intention of North Korea" echoing to the tune of the "anti-communist" trumpet of the U.S. imperialist master.

With no robber-like logic reversing black and white, however, can the U.S. war maniacs and their stooges cover up their aggressive nature or delude the world public opinion.

From the beginning, the "provocation from the North" which the U.S. imperialists are clamouring about has never existed nor does it exist now.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has consistently made every sincere effort to convert the Korean Armistice into a durable peace and realise the unification of Korea by the Korean people themselves independently on a democratic principle in a peaceful way.

As part of such endeavours, we proposed that the armies of North and South Korea be reduced to 100,000 or less respectively after withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea and an agreement on not resorting to arms against each other be concluded.

However, the South Korean puppet clique, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, rejected all our sincere proposals.

Under the slogan "unification by prevailing over communism" the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have stepped up war preparations systematically violating the armistice agreement. They have long established a "war-time posture" throughout South Korea and expanded the numerical strength of the puppet army from 16 divisions to 31 and converted South Korea into a huge military training ground for new war provocation, introducing even nuclear and rocket weapons.

This means that the U.S. imperialists intend to conquer our Republic by "force" and convert the whole of Korea into their colony, and nothing else.

After Johnson, war boss of U.S. imperialism, crept into South Korea in October 1966, this aggressive plan of the U.S. imperialist aggressors had been replaced on the stage of naked implementation. Since then the machinations of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique to provoke a new war against our Republic have been intensified more and more in a planned way and have reached the extreme today.

The U.S. imperialists conducted hostile and espionage activities by infiltrating the armed spy ship "Pueblo" deep into the territorial waters of our country and are raising frenzied war clamours after the armed spy ship was captured. This clearly shows the very fact that they cooked up such provocative act in a planned way to find a pretext for the start of a war by all means.

We did not capture the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship on the sea off the United States. If the spy ship had not intruded into our territorial waters, it is clear to everyone that the recent incident would not have occurred.

That the U.S. imperialists are trying hard only to find a pretext for starting a war by using the incident of the capture of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" can be clearly seen also in the fact that they show no sincerity whatsoever at the talks in Panmunjom concerning this incident and are causing obstacles at the talks, persisting in their unjust stand.

How rashly the U.S. imperialists are acting to fabricate a pretext for the provocation of a war was well proved by the fact that they hurriedly instigated the so-called "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," their servant, on February 23 to clamour about the "provocation of North Korea" and issue a "statement" raving about the necessity of certain "control measure."

We remember that in June 1950, when the U.S. imperialists started the aggression war in Korea, they resorted to similar machinations by using the "United Nations Commission on Korea," their aggressive tool. With the recent "statement" the "United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" has further exposed its true colour as a foul aggressive tool of the U.S. imperialists.

As for the armed guerrilla activities of the South Korean people about which the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique are clamouring, it is an inevitable phenomenon caused by the very fascist dictatorship of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

The armed guerrilla struggle being waged today in South Korea is a patriotic revolutionary struggle the South Korean people, unable to live any longer under the fascist terror rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, have started with arms in hand.

The "anti-communist" clamours of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique are a false one which was rigged up thoroughly and completely.

Everybody knows that the frantic "anti-communist" racket of the imperialists is a habitual, deceptive trick they employ each time they provoke an aggressive war.

Historical facts tell this clearly. When the Hitler clique provoked the Second World War, when the Mussolini clique invaded Ethiopia and when the Japanese militarist clique started the aggression in Manchuria, they all tried to cover up their criminal acts of aggression under the signboard of "anti-communism." The U.S. imperialists are following their method as it was.

The extremely tense, grave situation at present cannot be removed as long as the U.S. imperialists try to deny the brigandish aggressive acts they committed and continue to resort to war blackmail against our Republic using their brigandish acts as a pretext.

All facts prove that it is entirely attributable to the machinations of the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppet clique for aggression and war that the danger of a new war has become acute in Korea today.

It, therefore, depends entirely on the attitude of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys how the situation will develop in Korea in future.

There was no change in the past and there is no change now in the fundamental policy of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for maintaining peace in Korea and solving the question of Korea's unification in a peaceful way.

This notwithstanding, if the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique eventually start a war of aggression, we have no choice but to resolutely fight against the aggressors in defence of the honour of the fatherland, the socialist gains and the eastern outpost of the socialist camp.

The people are fully prepared to counter it.

We strongly hold that the U.S. imperialists must stop at once their brigandish military threat and blackmail and hostile provocations against our Republic and get out of South Korea without delay with all their aggressor troops and lethal weapons.

D.P.R.K. Govt. Statement

(Continued from Page 4)

In Hue the U.S. imperialist aggressors are committing the odious barbarities of killing many inhabitants even by using napalm bombs, poison gas and phosphorus bombs.

Synchronizing with this, U.S. imperialist air bandits are intensifying indiscriminate bombing raids on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, including the central district of Hanoi city.

Such homicidal barbarities of the U.S. imperialists are an unpardonable, hideous criminal act against the Vietnamese people and an open challenge to all the peace-loving people of the world who resolutely oppose the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in Viet Nam and a most shameless violation of international law and the norms of human morality.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people resolutely denounce and scathingly condemn with surging indignation the brutal homicidal barbarities committed by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys against the Vietnamese people.

Today the revolutionary People's Liberation Armed Forces of South Viet Nam and the South Vietnamese people, tightly holding the initiative in the war, are giving mass death to the U.S. imperialist aggressors and driving them into a hopeless bog of ruin by mounting fierce attacks all over South Viet Nam.

The People's Liberation Armed Forces and people are continuously striking hard at important military bases and positions of the enemy in Saigon, Khe Sanh, Hue and other parts of South Viet Nam and scoring new brilliant battle successes of liberating many cities and rural areas and further expanding the liberated areas.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people express warmest congratulations to and militant solidarity with the South Vietnamese people who are winning new shining victories, dealing heavy blows to the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys with all-out simultaneous offensive and mass uprising.

The U.S. imperialists are more obstinately clinging to odious homicidal atrocity and war escalation scheme in an attempt to extricate themselves from the catastrophic military and political crisis they are facing in Viet Nam today.

But, with no bestial atrocity and war escalation scheme can the U.S. imperialists recover from the miserable defeat they are sustaining in the war of aggression in Viet Nam, or bring to their knees the heroic Vietnamese people who have risen up as one in the sacred struggle against U.S. imperialism and for national salvation or quench the flames of the struggle fiercely raging over the land of indomitable Viet Nam.

The might of the Vietnamese people who have stood up with arms in hand in the nation-wide national-salvation war of resistance for the independence and liberation of the fatherland against the U.S. imperialists is inexhaustible. The more they fight, the stronger they grow.

The bestial atrocities of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys only hasten their final defeat and add to the hatred and enmity of the Vietnamese people against the enemy.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people fully support the statement of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation dated February 15, 1968, and the statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam dated February 25, 1968, exposing and denouncing the criminal atrocities of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys and expressing once again the firm determination of the Vietnamese people to fight to the end and win final victory and the open letter addressed to the heads of state of various countries in the world by the President of the South Vietnam National, Democratic and Peace Alliance in Hue city on February 18, 1968.

The Korean people who regard the aggression of the U.S. imperialists against Viet Nam as against themselves and are doing everything in their power to assist the fraternal Vietnamese people in the righteous war of resistance are fully prepared to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people at any time requested by them.

The U.S. imperialists must stop the criminal atrocities and all acts of war against the Vietnamese people definitively and unconditionally and pull out of South Viet Nam at once, taking all their aggressor troops, troops of their followers and all the lethal weapons.

The heroic Vietnamese people will surely win in the righteous struggle against U.S. imperialism and for national salvation and the U.S. imperialists will certainly be defeated.

D.P.R.K. Trade Mission Inaugurated in Beirut

A trade mission of our country was inaugurated in Beirut on February 14 under an agreement on establishing a trade mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Lebanon reached between the Governments of the D.P.R. and the Republic of Lebanon on September 15, 1967, according to a report from Beirut.

Trade representative Jon Gye Yong gave a banquet on February 27 in connection with the inauguration of the trade mission.

U.S. Imperialism Cannot Shirk Responsibility for Criminal Acts

Perpetrated by Crewmen of Armed Spy Ship "Pueblo"

More than one month has passed since the "Pueblo," an armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialists, was captured by the self-defence measures of naval vessels of the Korean People's Army while perpetrating espionage and hostile acts after intruding deep into the territorial waters of our country.

All facts since then show that the U.S. imperialists, occasioned by the incident of the armed spy ship "Pueblo," are working hard to find a pretext for the provocation of a new war, complicating the situation by hook or by crook.

As made clear by the confessions of the captain and the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the position log, navigational plot and various other kinds of records and espionage documents, the U.S. armed spy ship on the instructions of the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force Joint Chiefs of Staff and the orders of the Command of the U.S. Naval Forces in Japan, intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on six occasions, sailing along the carefully premeditated route and spied on the very important military and state secrets of our country in the period from January 15 to 23. At the time of the capture it was perpetrating grave hostile acts, intruding into the waters up to 7.6 miles from Yodo, 39°17.4′ N, 127°46.9′ E on the East Korea Bay, the historical bay of our country.

This was a most crude infringement upon the sovereignty of our country and an open act of aggression.

Every independent country has the full right to exercise its sovereignty over its territorial waters and the legitimate right to use all means to safeguard the security and sovereignty of its fatherland.

It was legitimate measures belonging to the sovereignty and defence right of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the naval vessels of the Korean People's Army to capture the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship "Pueblo" and its crew who illegally intruded into the territorial waters of our country and conducted hostile acts and, therefore, it is a matter entirely belonging to the right of our country how to deal with this incident.

The crew of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" must be treated by the law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as they were criminals caught red-handed while perpetrating grave criminal acts against our country. It is self-evident that anyone who infringes upon the sovereignty of other's country cannot escape punishment by that country.

Now the crew of the "Pueblo" admitted their criminal acts, apologized for them and repeatedly requested the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to leniently pardon them.

The criminal acts perpetrated by the crew of the armed spy ship are grave. But heavier responsibility rests with the U.S. authorities which ordered them to conduct espionage and hostile acts against our country.

Taking this into consideration, we may deal with matter as far as concerning the crew of the "Pueblo" leniently to a certain extent, if the U.S. side makes a due apology for its crimes and gives assurances against the recurrence of similar hostile acts. This is a stand for solving the question in a practical way and there is a precedent for this.

If the U.S. imperialists have the slightest concern about the destiny of the crew of the armed spy ship, they should make a due apology for the crimes they committed and give assurances that they will not repeat similar criminal acts. This is an unavoidable responsibility of the organisers of the crimes and an elementary obligation that they should fulfil.

Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialists, shamelessly denying the stern criminal cases, are unreasonably insisting on returning gratuitously the armed spy ship and its crew captured while perpetrating hostile acts after intruding into the territorial waters of a sovereign state. Completely reversing black and white, they are clamouring as if we are complicating the situation and hotting up the tension. This is like a thief, caught while breaking into other's house with lethal weapons, menacing the housemaster, the victim, shifting responsibility on to him. This is the long-exposed habitual tactics employed by the U.S. imperialists each time they perpetrate aggression against other's country.

Recently, they are even trying to build up public opinion, saying that they will "investigate" the truth of the matter after they have the crew returned or claiming that the "investigation" should be left to such international organisation as the International Court.

It is we who captured the criminals in the territorial waters of our country. Therefore, it is totally out of question and preposterous enough to claim that the organisers of the crime themselves or a third party who was not on the scene of the crime should be empowered to investigate and pass verdict on them, ignoring the confessions of the criminals taken in an act of crime, material evidence or the testimony of the victim.

What a shameless argument it is! If the U.S. imperialists calculate on getting something by threat or by artifice and mockery for misleading the world public opinion, it is a foolish dream.

Whatever means and methods the U.S. imperialists may resort to they will never be able to force their brigandish logic upon the Korean people. This they should realize clearly.

All the facts expose the nature of the U.S. imperialists more glaringly and show vividly that they are not interested in solving the question of the crew of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" but are resorting to crafty ruses for covering up the real facts of the criminal acts and their manoeuvres for the provocation of a new war in Korea.

Such attempt has been clearly seen also in the fact that they are persistently clinging to an untenable stand and creating obstacles at the meetings held on many occasions at their repeated request between the delegate of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the delegate of the government of the United States to discuss the incident of the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship "Pueblo."

With nothing can the U.S. imperialists shirk the responsibility for their criminal acts.

If the U.S. imperialists persistently cling to their unjustifiable stand, the question of the crew of the armed spy ship will not be solved, only time will be wasted and this, in the final analysis, will only prove more clearly that the U.S. imperialists are indifferent to their crew and are trying not to bear responsibility.

If the U.S. imperialists do not give up the present attitude, we will have no alternative but to take different measures toward the crew.

The U.S. imperialists are responsible entirely for the fact that the question of the crew of the "Pueblo" has not yet been solved and how this question will be solved in future depends entirely on their attitude.

The U.S. imperialists are continuously resorting to threat and blackmail. But such habitual practice which worked only with neurasthenics cannot work before the Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists must look straight at the reality and act with discretion.

Observer

Reactionary Sato Govt.'s Suppression of National Education of Koreans in Japan Is Unpardonable

On March 1, the reactionary Sato government of Japan closed the gathering centre in Niigata for Korean repatriates from Japan on the one hand and, on the other, decided at its Cabinet meeting to lay before the current Diet the "alien school system bill" to make it a success at any cost, a "bill" aimed at obliterating the democratic, national education of Korean citizens in Japan.

This has revealed to the whole world the vicious plot of the Japanese reactionary government to wantonly trample upon all the democratic, national rights the Korean citizens in Japan are exercising thanks to the parental solicitude shown by the respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the policy of compatriotic love pursued by the Government of the Republic and further intensify its barbarous suppression of them.

These overbearing acts perpetrated by the reactionary Sato government of Japan to sabotage the repatriation operation of Korean citizens in Japan and its machinations for the suppression of their national education are a grave criminal act of utterly violating international law and international practice and the humanitarian principle, an abominable savagery of challenging civilization and a naked expression of its reckless hostile policy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a strong independent socialist state.

The entire Korean people and all the peoples of the world who treasure justice and civilization are now expressing surging indignation at the reactionary Sato government of Japan which committed high-handed fascist outrages to totally wreck the repatriation operation of Korean citizens in Japan, a lofty humanitarian work, and to stamp out their democratic, national education, their sacred right.

We can never overlook the fact that the reactionary Sato government of Japan perpetrated these criminal acts of flagrantly infringing upon the national rights of Korean residents in Japan at a time when the schemes for a new war of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are becoming more intensified with each passing day.

With the incident of the seizure of the "Pueblo" as an occasion the clamours of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique for a new war against our Republic have reached an extremely frenzied stage. Having brought huge aggressive forces into South Korea and off the east coast of our country, they are making haste to assume a war posture and unscrupulously carrying on military provocations against the northern half of the Republic.

Synchronizing with this, the reactionary Sato government of Japan is trying more desperately than ever to completely wreck the repatriation operation of Korean citizens in Japan and make a success of the "alien school system bill" designed to obliterate their democratic, national education.

This fact alone suffices it to show to what extent the Japanese militarists have gone in their criminal scheme to realize their wild ambition for reinvasion of South Korea, joining more actively in the war provocation manoeuvres of U.S. imperialism and its stooges the Pak Jung Hi gang.

History proves that the suppression of Korean residents in Japan is a part of the U.S. imperialists' aggression and war provocation manoeuvres directed against our Republic.

People clearly remember the fact that the U.S. imperialists, in conspiracy with the reactionary ruling circles of Japan, forcibly shut down Korean schools in Japan before unleashing the Korean war 18 years ago.

The Japanese militarists are grossly miscalculating, however. The Korean people of today are not the Korean people of yesterday.

As Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, declared, **"We will continue to fight stubbornly against all the unwarranted acts of infringing upon the national rights of the overseas Korean citizens and persecuting and humiliating them, and will always resolutely support and inspire our overseas compatriots in the just struggle."**

If the reactionary Sato government of Japan, in disregard of the stern warning and firm determination of the entire Korean people, finally enacts the "law on alien school system" and wrecks the repatriation operation of Korean citizens in Japan, it will have to bear responsibility for all the grave consequences arising therefrom and will not be able to evade the stern judgement of history and the people.

Warm Greetings to 5th Anniversary of Syrian Revolution

The Syrian people mark the 5th anniversary of the Syrian revolution on March 8. On the occasion of the national day of the Syrian people, the Korean people extend warm congratulations to the Syrian people who are making a vigorous onward march under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

Many changes have taken place in the life of the Syrian people in the past several years after the revolution. In recent years in particular, the Syrian people have attained great achievements in the struggle against imperialism and in the building of a new life.

The Syrian Government has taken a series of progressive measures including the land reform, the nationalization of factories and enterprises owned by foreign monopolies and reactionaries at home and the organization of co-operatives. It actively supports the struggle of the Palestinian people for restoring their homeland and the national-liberation struggle of the peoples of the colonial dependencies and strives energetically for the unity of the Asian and African peoples fighting against imperialism and colonialism.

The home and foreign policies pursued by the Syrian Government are an expression of the firm determination of the Syrian people to defend national dignity and achieve the prosperity and development of the country. These policies, therefore, command the support of the world's people and represent a heavy blow to the imperialists bent on aggression and plunder.

This is why the imperialists and colonialists led by U.S. imperialism are stepping up provocative acts against the Syrian people by all means.

The aggressive war started by the Israeli expansionists against the Arab states in June 1967 at the direct instigation of U.S. imperialism showed clearly that the U.S. imperialists are the most heinous enemy of the Syrian and other Arab peoples. When the war broke out, Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, sent a telegram to Nureddin Attassi, Head of State of the Syrian Arab Republic, expressing full support to and firm solidarity with the Syrian people in their just struggle against the aggressive action of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys Israeli expansionists and for safeguarding the sovereignty of the country.

The machinations for the provocation of a new war by the U.S. imperialists, the common enemy of the Korean and Syrian peoples, have already reached a grave stage in Korea. The U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are kicking up a frenzied war racket in connection with the recent incident of the seizure of armed spy ship "Pueblo."

As Comrade Kim Il Sung said, **"We do not want war, but are never afraid of it. Our people and People's Army will return retaliation for the 'retaliation' of the U.S. imperialists, all-out war for all-out war."** The Korean people will, in the future, too, as in the past, continue resolutely to fight in unity with the Syrian people and all the progressive people of the world holding aloft the revolutionary banner of anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. struggle.

Open Letter Addressed to Johnson

by Entire Crew of Armed Spy Ship "Pueblo" of U.S. Imperialist Aggressors Who Have Been Captured by Korean People's Army While Conducting Criminal Hostile Acts after Having Intruded into Territorial Waters of Democratic People's Republic of Korea

It Demands That the U.S. Gov't. Honestly Admit the Intrusion of the Armed Spy Ship "Pueblo" into the Territorial Waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Its Hostile Acts, Sincerely Apologize to the Gov't. of the D.P.R.K. and Give Assurance that Such Acts Will Not Be Repeated

The entire crewmen of the "Pueblo," an armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressors which was captured by self-defensive measures of the Navy of the Korean People's Army while perpetrating criminal hostile acts after intruding into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent in their joint name an open letter on February 29 to Johnson demanding the U.S. government to frankly admit its crimes and sincerely apologize for them to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and give assurance against the repetition of such acts.

The open letter was signed by the 82 crewmen of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" including the captain.

The full text of the open letter reads:

* * *

29 February 1968

The President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

We, the officers, crew and civilian oceanographers of the USS Pueblo, are writing you jointly to explain the facts and those points we consider pertinent to our capture, and our detention in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to request your assistance in our repatriation. We consider this letter to be vital to our future. We do not mean to imply that your concern for us is or has been negligent; on the contrary, our earnest desire is that you, our Commander-in-Chief, have the complete facts as we and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea know them.

We are all members of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Department of Defense.

The USS Pueblo was designed and commissioned to conduct electronic espionage and had a detachment of men assigned who are highly trained in this field. A secondary capability was to take oceanographic measurements useful for naval operations for which two civilian oceanographers were assigned.

We were operating under official U.S. Navy orders issued to us by Commander, Naval Forces Japan, our operational Commander. Our orders were approved and sanctioned by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chief of Naval Operations.

Our ship, in order to obtain electronic visual intelligence, intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the following points:

1. 9.8 miles from Kal Tan north of Chongjin
2. 11.2 miles from Orang Dan
3. 10.75 miles and 11.3 miles from Nan Do east of Songjin
4. 8.2 miles from Ansong Kap in the Mayang Do area
5. 7.6 miles from Yo Do in the Wonsan area.

As we were ordered, we concentrated our intelligence collection efforts during the 10 days in the coastal waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the vicinity of four ports: Chongjin, Songjin, Mayang Do, and Wonsan. We sampled the electronic environment with emphasis on collecting various information on the Naval Forces of the Korean People's Army and intercepting and locating radars along the coast. We also intercepted communications and detected observation posts and military objects located on the coast. We were captured while committing hostile acts 7.6 miles from Yo Do in the vicinity of Wonsan in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 23 January 1968.

Immediately following the capture we attempted to deny the real purpose of our operation and our intrusions into the territorial waters, hoping to safeguard national security and our national honor. However, we could not long deny the facts since the Korean People's Army had in their possession our documents, which revealed the real purpose of our operation and the ship's position logs and charts which proved our intrusions into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In light of this damning evidence and our later honest conviction that we had gravely wronged the Korean people we sincerely and openly confessed everything.

We then wrote a joint letter of apology to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and asked for leniency.

Since our detention we have been treated humanely. We are provided with all the necessities for daily living. In fact, the treatment we are receiving is clearly beyond expectation. Our wounded have been treated and are now in the final stages of recovery.

It is legitimate for the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to insist that before our repatriation can be realized, the necessary amenities be made by our Government under whose orders we operated. Specifically, we believe that since the real facts of the Pueblo case have been fully revealed to the world, our repatriation can be realized only when our Government frankly admits the fact that we intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and committed hostile acts, and sincerely apologizes for these acts and gives assurance that they will not be repeated.

We have had many hours of solitude since our detention to reflect and consider the nature of our offense, and rather than harboring resentment toward the Korean people for our capture, we have a strong feeling of guilt for the act we committed.

We have formed the opinion that espionage such as we conducted is an unjust infringement upon the sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and undermines completely any chance for honesty in international understanding. This is our belief and does not concern the question of the necessity for vigilance to ensure the security of the United States.

Mr. President, the immense weight of evidence that confirms the Pueblo's intrusions into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its espionage acts is overwhelming and cannot be refuted. A vast majority of us are in our twenties and have most of our lives yet to live. We could discuss at length our hopes for their futures but we think that you understand our desire for prompt repatriation.

We know that you do not consider us as mere pawns but as U.S. naval officers and men who attempted to do only as they were ordered. More importantly, we know that you value us as citizens of our country of which you are President.

We firmly believe now that you have the facts, that you will take all the necessary steps for our expeditious return.

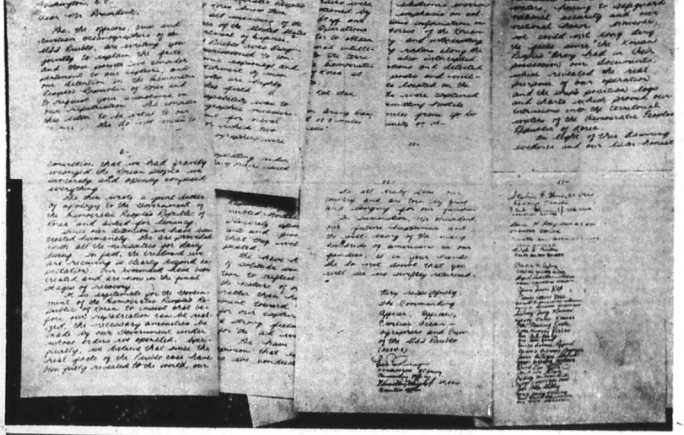
We have had no word of our families and loved ones at home since our capture. We are torn by sorrow, suspense and longing for news of their well-being and are certain that they are even more worried about us. We depend on you to reunite us with them as soon as possible.

We all truly love our country and are torn by grief and longing for our families.

In summation, Mr. President, our future happiness and the well-being of the many hundreds of Americans in our families, is in your hands. We do not doubt that you will see us swiftly returned.

Very Respectfully,

The Commanding Officer, Officers, Civilian Oceanographers and crew of the USS Pueblo (AGER-2)



Open letter to Johnson signed by the entire 82 crew members of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" of the U.S. imperialist aggressors who have been captured by the Korean People's Army while conducting criminal hostile acts after having intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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